Exploring the World of Abstract Art with Zara

Learning objective: I can understand the principles of abstract art and express my own ideas through shape, colour, and texture.

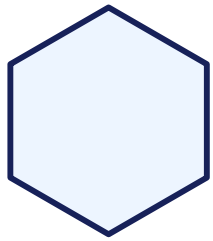
About 15 minutes. Grown-up tip: Encourage your child to describe their art in terms of feelings and shapes rather than naming objects.

Zara the zebra loves to look at the world differently. In abstract art, we focus on feelings, patterns, and shapes rather than realistic pictures. For example, if you wanted to represent 'calm' through abstraction, you might choose soft, wavy blue lines rather than painting a literal person sleeping.

Word bank: composition · geometric · organic · palette · texture · vibrant · contrast

1. Abstract art often uses a limited colour palette to create a specific mood. If you were creating a piece to represent 'a busy city centre', which colours would you choose and why? Explain your choice using the word 'contrast'. (2 marks)

2. Look at the shapes below. Sort them into 'Geometric' (man-made, precise) and 'Organic' (natural, flowing). Why might an artist choose to combine both in one piece? (2 marks)



3. Zara is painting a piece about the rhythm of a rainy day in London. Describe how she could use lines (thick, thin, jagged, or curved) to show the difference between steady rain and a sudden thunderstorm. (2 marks)

4. Composition is how we arrange elements on a page. If you have a large, dark circle on the left, what could you add to the right side of the page to create balance? Give a reason for your answer. (2 marks)

5. Think of a memory from your summer holidays. Instead of drawing the scene, list three abstract 'elements' (shapes, colours, or textures) that could represent that memory. Explain the feeling each element represents. (3 marks)

Draw: A vibrant, abstract composition using a mix of geometric shapes and flowing organic lines, inspired by the patterns Zara the zebra sees on a walk through a park.

Extension challenge: Find a piece of abstract art online or in a book. Write a short paragraph explaining what you think the artist felt while painting it. Use evidence from the colours and lines you see to support your opinion.

I did it! Name: _____ Date: _____

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